

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the very thorough consideration given the present application.

Claims 77-87 are now present in this application. Claims 77 and 85 are independent. Claims 1-76 are cancelled without prejudice.

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested based on the amendments and remarks.

Rejections under 37 CFR § 103

Claims 1, 6-19, 22, 31-42, 45, 54, 60 and 65-75 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 3,019,790 to Militana in view of Redmon. This rejection is respectfully traversed as moot because claims 1, 6-19, 22, 31-42, 45, 54, 60 and 65-75 have been canceled.

Claims 2-5, 21, 24-30, 44, 47-53, 55, 57, 58 and 61-64 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Militana in view of Redmon and further in view of U.S. Patent 4,608,982 to Pollard. This rejection is respectfully traversed as moot because claims 2-5, 21, 24-30, 44, 47, 53, 55, 57, 58 and 61-64 have been canceled.

Allowed Claims

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation, the allowance of claims 77-87.

CONCLUSION

All the stated grounds of rejection have been rendered moot, and the only remaining claims, i.e., claims 77-87 have been allowed.

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and that the only remaining claims have been allowed. Accordingly, as such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to send the application to Issue.

In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Robert J. Webster, Registration No. 46,472, at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

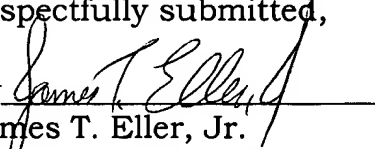
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), Applicants respectfully petition for a three (3) month extension of time for filing a response in connection with the present application and the required fee of \$510 is attached herewith.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: **June 21, 2006**

Respectfully submitted,

By


James T. Eller, Jr.

Registration No.: 39,538

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH,
LLP

8110 Gatehouse Road

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant

